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**Kuipers Appointed to Education Commission of the States** 

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(LANSING) – State Senator Wayne Kuipers, R-Holland, today announced his appointment as commissioner to the Education Commission of the States (ECS), a public policy organization that gathers and analyzes education policy across the nation. Kuipers was appointed to the position by Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, R-Wyoming.

"I am grateful to Senator Sikkema for nominating me to serve as a commissioner for the Education Commission on the States," Kuipers said. "I look forward to the many new responsibilities that this position carries. There are numerous state and federal education issues I feel passionately about and I am eager to begin working immediately with my new colleagues."

ECS keeps policy makers informed by gathering, analyzing and disseminating information about current and emerging issues, trends and innovations in state education policy.

ECS commissioners provide leadership for ESC initiatives as well as for their states' educational agenda. Commissioners also contribute to productive dialogue and collaborative activities between educators and policymakers as they work with ECS to create a climate for change and improvement in public education.

"Senator Kuipers is well qualified to serve as a commissioner for the Education

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Commission of the States," Sikkema said. "His experience as chair of both the Senate and House Education Committee, along with his leadership skills and ability to work on a bipartisan level, make him a terrific legislator for this position."

Seven commissioners serve ECS from Michigan – the Governor, 2 members from the state Legislature (one from each the Senate and the House) and four more appointed by the Governor.